

349th Air Mobility Wing

December 2010 Vol. 28, No. 12

"In Omnia Paratus"

# CONTACT



Operation Teddy Bear



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**On the Cover:** Each year, going on 26 years, the reservists from the 349th Air Mobility Wing have brought joy to local children through Operation Teddy Bear. If you would like to volunteer, contact Chief Master Sgt. Mark Kloeppel or Master Sgt. Dana Rhodes, 349th Medical Group, at 707-424-1643. The 349th AMW Honor Guard also participates in the Operation Teddy Bear visits. (U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Master Sgt. Ellen L Hatfield)

**Contact** magazine is the monthly, authorized publication for members of the U.S. military and their families. It is printed under contract with Far Western Graphics Inc., Sunnyvale California. The contents expressed herein are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Air Force. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

# AFRC Commander sends holiday greetings

*by Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr.  
Commander of  
Air Force Reserve Command*

**A**s we celebrate this holiday season and prepare for the challenges of 2011, I want to thank you for serving our nation as Citizen Airmen.

You have stepped up to meet every tasking given to you. You airlifted much needed aid to disaster victims, deployed to Afghanistan, helped usher in a new era in Iraq or supported other contingency operations overseas. Some of you didn't leave home this year but your service made it possible for us to support our nation's Total Force missions throughout the world.

Thank you for all you do. We know and appreciate the sacrifices your families and employers make to allow you to serve. Much has been asked of you and much will be asked of you in the future as we move forward as a fully operational command.

**D**ee and I wish all of you the happiest of holidays. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families as we welcome a joyous New Year.

# The true gift to one another: the gift of ourselves

*by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gregory Stringer,  
349th Air Mobility Wing*

Life offers many special occasions for giving gifts to loved ones. They run the gamut from birthdays to weddings, graduations, and even potlucks, gifts of food to share with others. During religious holidays, such as Hanukkah and Christmas, we usually exchange gifts with others. But it is interesting to note, that in the midst of the gift-giving process, we can lose the reason for giving a gift. In fact, the focus is on the gift, not the giving.

We stress about whether the gift will be good enough, expensive enough to convey our love for the person, or meet a particular need or want. It's even harder to find the "perfect" gift when we are bombarded with TV commercials and a sensory overload at the shopping mall. Even the wrapping of the gift can create anxiety. It must look "just right" with perfectly-folded paper, a beautifully-tied bow, a gift tag written in the best penmanship.

I offer that we focus on the true gift to one another: the gift of ourselves — to our spouses, our children, our family and friends — to our country. As a Christian Chaplain, the practice of giving gifts during Christmas is a reminder of God's gift of love to the world in Jesus. From the Christian perspective, God reminds me that the best gift I can give to Him and others is *me*...not a *thing*. We do this by

being an instrument of love, peace, compassion, forgiveness, and faithfulness at home, at work, in our religious community, and our neighborhood. We can make a positive impact for God and our fellow humans daily when we allow good thoughts, kind and uplifting words, and acts of love to flow out to those around us everywhere. It is a vast

undertaking, but it is worthwhile and God will help us accomplish it.

This brings me back to my main point. As the gift to your loved ones, friends, and country, how will you

"present" yourself to them today, this week, or next month? Instead of finding the perfect gift in the store, how could you be, or remind your loved ones to be, a better gift ... the gift of a healthy self offered in love to one another?

I suggest instead of working longer and harder to get that perfect gift for someone, you spend the time in conversation with that person and share a precious moment with him or her. YOU are their gift and THEY are your gift! Take care of each other and cherish each other on a daily basis. Remember, you are precious in both God's eyes and in the eyes of one another. Please handle your precious "gifts" with care, faithfulness, and love.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all!



# Common denominator

*By Chief Master Sgt. Kathleen R. Buckner,  
349th Air Mobility Wing Command Chief*



**W**hen it is my turn to write the Chief's Corner column, I struggle with what to say. What do I have to say that can be of interest to so many different people: active duty, reservists, family members, dependents, civilians, men and women?

But I found that common denominator — we are all human beings! There — I found it... now what to say. Knowing that I wanted to reach all different types of people, I took a few days and really, really was conscious of my surroundings. I started to watch the behavior of those people I came in contact with and those that I observed from a distance.

Oh my gosh— this world is crazy! By crazy I mean we move at the speed of light — rushing around to and from work, from meetings to soccer practice to the commissary to doctor appointments to date night to school and everything in between — it's insane. But, it is the world we live in. How we deal with all of this craziness is how we are not only going to *survive* it, but actually *enjoy* our time here on earth.

The simplest way to be happy in this extremely busy environment, is through tolerance! The definitions of tolerance that I like are: 1. the acceptance of the differing views of other people; 2. the act of putting up with somebody or something irritating or otherwise unpleasant. I personally relate more to number two. I accept that we are all going to have different views and ideas, the hard part is putting up with it.

An anonymous quote I relate to my professional life is, "Never hire or promote in your own image. It is foolish to replicate your strength and idiotic to replicate your weakness. It is essential to employ, trust, and reward those whose perspective, ability, and judgment are radically different from yours. It is also rare, for it requires uncommon humility, tolerance, and wisdom".

To me, being tolerant of others is just letting them be who they are - I have no idea what their life is like - I have not walked in their shoes. Who am I to judge how they act, react or live their life, as long as they are not harming anyone or breaking any laws?

Let me give you a quick example of what I am talking about. I was at Sacramento International Airport waiting for a flight and I saw this young mother with four small children. Of course, all but the one in her arms, were totally out of control, running around and screaming. I watched as those in our vicinity gave her looks of disgust. Some moved away and some just seemed to ignore them. She struggled to get them all corralled at her gate so I offered to help. I was able to scoop up two of them as she got the smallest one, and we headed to some vacant seats.

I sat with her until her plane boarded. Thank goodness I was not on her flight. ;-). She told me that her husband had lost his job and deserted the family because he couldn't handle the stress, so she was on her way to Michigan to live back home with her parents. WOW, crazy huh?

Once we understand the big picture it seems a little easier to accept certain situations. However, more often than not, we will never see or know the big picture. That is when we need to dig deep, be open-minded and not judge, give people the benefit of the doubt, and hope that others are also giving us the same consideration during our times of craziness.

**N**ow, be honest with yourself here, we all have craziness in our lives - some more than others — but we all got it, so live and let live. Let's be patient, tolerant and open-minded with our own situations and with those around us. Life is too short - give yourself a break, and others too. Don't be afraid to offer a smile, a kind word or a helping hand. That small act might just be enough to get us through this crazy life!

# Wing Annual Food Drive - Give, because it is what we do

*by Senior Airman Amelia Leonard  
349th Public Affairs*

**I**t's that time of year again—the leaves have begun to fall from the trees, the rain is trickling in, and it seems like no matter where you look stores are gearing up for the holidays.

With the holiday season upon us, as we begin to reflect on the importance of family, friends, and our general well-being, we need to remember that some people find it more difficult, in this economy, to be thankful. For this very reason, the 349th Air Mobility Wing Chaplains office has teamed up with a local charity organization. They give those in need a reason to smile this holiday season by donating non-perishable food to the people living in their transitional housing.

The Chaplains office is asking Team Travis Airmen to help those less fortunate during this holiday season by donating canned goods, and any other food that can be easily used or is non-perishable.

Last years' holiday food drive brought in a record amount of more than 5,400 pounds of food from Travis Airmen, and the Chaplains office is hoping to out-do themselves yet again. But, they can't do it without help from you!

"As long as each person donates two cans this year, we will beat last years' donations," said Tech. Sgt. Stacey Jackson, Chaplains assistant, 349th AMW.

"It is a simple way to show love for one another, both within the Air Force and our community," said Chaplain, (Lt. Col.) Gregory Stringer, 349th AMW. "It ties into our core value of service before self. This is a way we serve our country, one individual, and family at a time. Our core value of integrity is also

reflected in caring for others.

We love our country, and that's why we wear our uniform."

Donation bins are located at nine different squadron buildings here on Travis: 894; 185; 921; 31; 206; 221; 228; 239; and P-21. The donation bins will stay at these locations until the holiday food drive ends December 19th. However, you can drop additional donations at the Chaplains' office after this time. The 349th AMW Chaplains office is located in building 237, bay F.

**F**or more information on the holiday food drive, contact Sergeant Jackson at 707-424-0308.



Chaplain, (Lt. Col.) Gregory Stringer along with Tech. Sgt. Stacey Jackson, 349th Air Mobility Wing, sit amongst this year's bags of donations for the holiday food drive.



# CRISIS LOOK - Operational Readiness

**M**ore than 200 members from the 349th Air Mobility Wing worked together during a base-wide exercise, CRISIS LOOK, Nov. 3-5. Members simulated a real-world deployment during the three day operational readiness exercise. The exercise began with Airmen going through a pre-deployment line and simulating a take-off to a foreign country.

During the exercise, Team Travis members practiced proper procedures in response to real-life acts of terror such as bomb explosions. The members practiced going through all of the force protection conditions and implementing the various levels of mission oriented protective postures.

This experience was a first for many members of the 349th AMW.

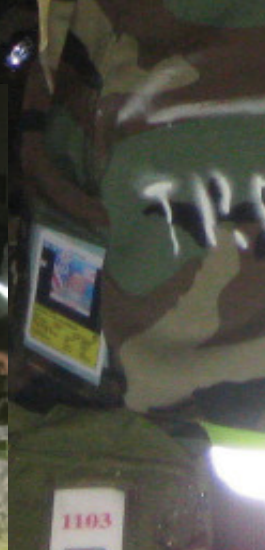
"It was a learning experience— that's for sure," said Tech. Sgt. Norma Rodriguez, 349th AMW. "I got to experience what it was like here at Travis before having to actually fly-out," she said. Sergeant Rodriguez, who had never experienced a base-wide exercise before, said she thinks everyone should have to experience it more than once in their career.

"Having to stay up for 16 hours was the hardest part," she said. "Many people had difficulty wearing their chemical gear for a long period of time," she said. At one point they were in their full mission oriented protective posture gear for almost four hours, she said.

One of the exercise evaluators, Senior Master Sgt. Ellen Hatfield, 349th AMW, graded the Airman on their adherence to a checklist written by the inspector general.

"We were watching for the support and care for each other," she said. "It was a good chance to test and practice partnering people together and having them look out for one another," she said.

**I**n order to be better prepared for the next base exercise, Sergeant Hatfield and Sergeant Rodriguez both agree that Airmen should become familiar with their Airman's Manual and practice working with their chemical gear.

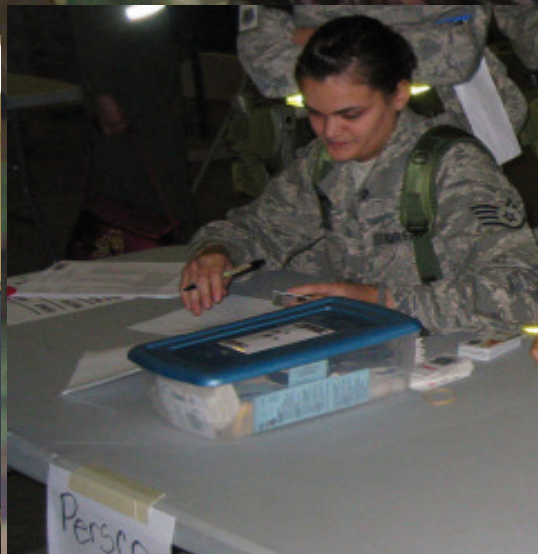




# Press Exercise 'lights up the night'

Story by Senior Airman Amelia Leonard, 349th Public Affairs

Photos by Master Sgt. Bob Wade, 349th Public Affairs



## *349th Wing Traditional Reserve Vacancies*

AFSC	AFSC Title	Rank	AFSC	AFSC Title	Rank
11G3	Generalist Pilot	Officer	3S271	Education & Training	SSgt/TSgt/MSgt
11M3K	Mobility Pilot, General	Officer	41A3	Health Services Admin	Officer
14N3	Intelligence Officer	Officer	42B3	Physical Therapist	Officer
1A071	In-Flight Refueling	TSgt	43P3	Pharmacist	Officer
1A151	Flight Engineer	SSgt/TSgt	44M3H	Internist	Officer
1A291	Aircraft Loadmaster	MSgt	44R3B	Diagnostic Radiologist	Officer
1N051	Operations Intelligence	TSgt	45A3	Anesthesiologist	Officer
1N091	Operations Intelligence	SMSgt	45B3	Orthopedic Surgeon	Officer
2A571	Aerospace Maintenance	TSgt/MSgt	45S3A	Surgeon	Officer
2A656	Aircraft Elec & Env Sys	SSgt	45S3B	Surgeon	Officer
2A654	Aircraft Fuel System	SSgt	46F3	Flight Nurse	Officer
2A655	Aircraft Hydraulic Sys	SSgt	46M3	Nurse Anesthetist	Officer
2A675	Aircraft Hydraulic Sys	TSgt	46N3	Clinical Nurse	Officer
2E173	Ground Radio Comm	TSgt/MSgt	46N3E	Clinical Critical Nurse	Officer
2F051	Fuels	SSgt	46N3H	Clinical Nurse	Officer
2G071	Logistics Plans	MSgt	46S3	Operating Room Nurse	Officer
2T271	Air Transportation	TSgt/MSgt	48A3	Aerospace Medicine	Officer
3E252	Electrical Power Prod	SSgt	4A091	Health Services Mgnt	SMSgt
3E291	Pavement & Const	MSgt/SMSgt	4N051	Aerospace Medical Svs	SSgt/TSgt
3E451	Utilities Systems	TSgt	4N071	Aerospace Medical Svs	MSgt
3E473	Environmental Controls	MSgt	4N071C	Aerospace Med, IDMT	TSgt/MSgt
3E800	Explosive Ord Disposal	SMS/CMSgt	4N091	Aerospace Medical Svs	SMSgt
3E591	Engineering	MSgt	8F000	First Sergeant	MSgt
3D052	Cyber Sys Opers	SSgt	5J051	Paralegal Assistant	SSgt
3D152	Cyber Trans Sys	SSgt	5R051	Chaplain Assistant	SSgt

For more information about these vacancies, go to <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/MainMenu.asp>.  
 For more information about ART vacancies contact the ART Recruiter office at 530-634-5189 or go to <http://www.usajobs.gov>.

## *349th Wing Full-Time Vacancies*

UNIT	GS/SERIES	TITLE	
349 AMW	GS-0301-12	Executive Officer	ART
349 AMDS	GS-0303-07	Medical Administrative Asst	ART
45 APS	GS-1702-09	Training Technician	ART
82 APS	GS-1702-09	Training Technician	ART
349 LRF	GS-2001-09	General Supply Specialist	ART
349 MSS	GS-0203-05	Human Resources Assistant	ART
349 MSS	GS-0344-07	Management Assistant	CIV
349 MSS	GS-1702-09	Training Technician	ART
349 MXG	WG-8852-11	Aircraft Work Inspector	ART
349 MXS	WG-2610-12	Electronic Integrated Systems Mech	ART
349 AMXS	WG-8602-10	Aircraft Engine Mechanic	ART
349 AMXS	GS-0303-05	Adm Support Asst Office Automation	CIV
349 AMXS	WG-2892-10	Aircraft Electrician	ART
749 AMXS	WS-8801-09	Aircraft Overhaul Supervisor	ART
349 AES	GS-0301-09	Resource & Aviation Mgmt Spec	ART
349 AES	GS-0301-10	Aeromedical Evacuation Specialist	ART
349 AES	GS-0301-12	Medical Administrative Officer	ART
349 OSF	GS-0303-07	Wing Operations Center Controller	ART
312 AS	GS-2185-09	Aircraft Loadmaster Instructor	ART
70 ARS	GS-0318-05	Secretary Office Automation	CIV
349 OSF	GS-0343-09	Program Analyst	ART
79 ARS	GS-2181-12/13	Airplane Flight Instructor	ART
312 AS	GS-2181-13	Airplane Flight Instructor	ART
301 AS	GS-2181-13	Airplane Flight Instructor	ART



## College grants up for grabs

**T**he Air Force Aid Society plans to award up to 3,000 grants to dependents of Air Force members for their college education through the General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program. Applications for these

\$2,000 need-based grants are now available from the Society's website, [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org). Completed forms must be received by AFAS no later than March 11, 2011.

The grant program is open to dependent children of active duty; Title 10 Reservists on extended active duty; Title 32 AGR

performing full-time active duty; retired, retired reservists and also dependents of deceased Air Force members. Spouses of active duty members and surviving spouses of deceased personnel are also eligible. All applicants must be enrolled as full-time undergraduates at an accredited college or university during the 2011-2012 academic year, and are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA).

Selection is heavily based on cost of attendance, family income, and is dependent on the number of eligible applicants competing. Final need assessment will be determined by an independent agency.

All interested students are encouraged to review full eligibility requirements, procedures and application instructions on the Society's website.

Apply NOW! Don't miss out on a chance for college cash through a program with an average selection rate of better than 50%!

**T**he Air Force Aid Society, a non-profit organization, is the official charity of the U.S. Air Force and has been providing emergency and education assistance to Air Force families for nearly 70 years.



## Uniform phaseout dates near

**W**ith many phaseout and mandatory wear dates approaching, the look of Air Force uniforms will change slightly over the next year. Here are a few dates to remember for uniform and policy changes.

As of the following dates, wear of the listed uniform items will be phased out:

### **Dec. 31, 2010**

— Gray and dark blue scarves, gloves, mittens and earmuffs

### **Oct. 1, 2011**

— 33S legacy badges

### **Nov. 1, 2011**

— Battle Dress Uniform

— Desert Camouflage Uniform

— Tan boots (excluding Airmen deployed to the area of responsibility)

Wear of the Airman Battle Uniform and ABU items will be mandatory as of Nov. 1, 2011.

As of Oct. 1, 2010, the optional green fleece without nametapes and rank may only be worn as a liner to the All-Purpose Environmental Clothing System. If worn as an outer garment, the green fleece must have the Airman's name, Air Force tape and rank attached.

**F**or more on uniform items, visit the Air Force website at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dress](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dress).

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## Civilians, families, retirees welcomed at dining facility

**T**he Air Force Food Transformation Initiative has begun here at Travis.

The initiative seeks to restore a sense of community by allowing civilians, families and retirees to eat at pilot installation dining facilities.

For more information about FTI and other programs geared toward taking care of Airmen and their families, visit [www.usafservices.com](http://www.usafservices.com).

# Reserve members, families encouraged to nominate supportive employers

**E**mployer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense agency, recently announced the opening of the nomination season for the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. Guard and Reserve service members and their families are encouraged to nominate employers who have provided exceptional support of military employees above federal law requirements. Nominations are being accepted at [www.FreedomAward.mil](http://www.FreedomAward.mil) through Jan. 17. The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for the outstanding support of their employees serving in the Guard and Reserve.

The 2011 recipients will be announced in the spring and honored in Washington, D.C. at the 16th annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award ceremony on Sept. 22. Recipients of the 2010 Freedom Award met privately with Vice President Joe Biden and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates while in Washington, D.C. Under Secretary of Defense, Chief Financial Officer Robert Hale and Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs Dennis McCarthy presented the awards at a ceremony attended by members of Congress, senior military officials, business leaders and the Guard and Reserve service members who nominated the award recipients.

Almost one-half of the U.S. military is comprised of the Guard and Reserve. The DoD shares these citizen warriors with their civilian employers, many of whom provide significant support to their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. The 2010 recipients included CEOs from seven large American corporations, a governor, a mayor, a state police director, the chancellor of a university, and four small business owners. These and past recipients of the Freedom Award provide an outstanding range of support to these shared employees, including maintaining their full salary, continuation of benefits, providing care packages and family assistance to employees fulfilling their military obligation.

The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of ESGR to recognize exceptional support from the employer community.

“Every day we hear of employers providing outstanding support to the men and women serving in our Guard and Reserve and to their families,” noted ESGR National Chairman Mr. Jim Rebholz. “Now, more than ever, we encourage these service members to show their appreciation by formally nominating their employers for this most prestigious award.”

ESGR is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972 whose mission is to develop and promote employer support for Guard and Reserve service by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws, and resolving conflict between employers and service members.

**F**or questions regarding the nomination process, please visit [www.FreedomAward.mil](http://www.FreedomAward.mil) or contact Beth Sherman, ESGR Public Affairs, at 703-696-1171, ext. 539 or by email at [ESGR-PA@osd.mil](mailto:ESGR-PA@osd.mil). (ESGR)

**Nominate Your Supportive Employer**

**2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award**

Attention Guard and Reserve service members and your Families

Nominate your supportive employer for the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, the highest award given by the U.S. Government to employers for exceptional support of Guard and Reserve employees.

**Accepting Nominations November 1, 2010 - January 17, 2011 at [www.FreedomAward.mil](http://www.FreedomAward.mil)**

**ESGR**  
EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE

ESGR, a Department of Defense agency established in 1972, develops and promotes employer support for Guard and Reserve service by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws and resolving conflict between employers and service members.  
[www.ESGR.mil](http://www.ESGR.mil) • 1-800-336-4590





Seven members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing received Associate Degrees during a Community College of the Air Force graduation ceremony held at the Delta Breeze Club here on Nov. 9, 2010. Pictured left to right: Technical Sgt. Roderick Lee, 349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Master Sgt. William Reed, 349th Maintenance Squadron; Master Sgt. Christy Hunter, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron; Senior Airman April Julyn Dela Montanye, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Kirk Stewart, 349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Master Sgt. Bob Wade, 349th Air Mobility Wing; and Technical Sgt. Emil Canlas, 349th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

### ***ENLISTED PROMOTIONS***

#### **MASTER SERGEANT**

GALBRAITH, STACEY, 349TH AMDS  
 CLARK, DAVID, 349TH MDS  
 STEVENS, KRISTOPHER, 312TH AS  
 HOLMAN-MCCLENDON, DELMORA,  
 349TH AMDS  
 VENENCIANO, JANE, 45TH APS  
 MORRIS, JIMMIE, 349TH AES  
 GUERRERO, BREEZYJUNE, 349TH ASTS  
 OLAY, ALEX, 55TH APS  
 MORTON, JEREMY, 349TH AES  
 SPANNAUS, MICHAEL, 312TH AS

#### **TECHNICAL SERGEANT**

WINDHAM, BETHANY, 349TH AMDS  
 BURK, LAURA, 349TH MOF  
 ROMO, RUBEN, 349TH AES

#### **STAFF SERGEANT**

HAJEK, KRISTINA, 349TH AMDS  
 ANDREWS, HAROLD, 23RD CBCS  
 CARAGAN, DAVID, 55TH APS  
 HUNT, ANDREW, 749TH AMXS

Effective November. 1, 2010 or earlier.





**349th AIR MOBILITY WING  
520 WALDRON STREET  
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

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